

B O C A G I A N A

Museu Municipal do Funchal

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FURTHER NOTES ON BIRDS SEEN IN MADEIRA AND PORTO SANTO

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The publication in 1965 of volume II of *Birds of the Atlantic Islands* by D.A. and W. M. Bannerman, which provides an authoritative history of the birds of the Madeiran archipelago to that date, makes it desirable to put on record any further observations of interest, especially of species unrecorded therein. The following notes derive from three visits to the islands made since the publication of «Bannerman», to Madeira in December 1965, to Madeira on the way back from the Azores in September 1969, and to Madeira and Porto Santo in October 1979. Species are listed in the sequence, and with the nomenclature, used by K. H. Voous in his *List of Recent Holarctic Bird Species*, 1977.

Cattle Egret, *Bubulcus ibis*. One at the barragem on Porto Santo 8 October 1979. Bannerman gives only four previous records.

Knot, *Calidris canutus*. Two Funchal harbour 22 September 1969. Bannerman calls this «an occasional visitor during the seasons of migration».

Purple Sandpiper, *Calidris maritima*. Two Funchal (on rocks by Lido) 3 October 1979. Apparently not previously recorded.

Wilson's Phalarope, *Phalaropus tricolor*. One present at the barragem, Porto Santo, 8-15 October 1979. Identified by long,

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fine bill, and in flight by the conspicuous white rump and absence of any white wing-bar. Seen on 8 October by Mr. A. Zino as well as by myself. Westerly winds at the time may have brought this American species to the islands, where it had not previously been recorded. (In the British Isles this species was first recorded in 1954, but since then nearly a hundred have been observed. *British Birds*, 71.504-5.)

Grey Phalarope, *Phalaropus fulicarius*. One present with the previous species on Porto Santo 11 and 15 October 1979. The much shorter and broader bill, the presence of a white wing-bar and, when the two birds were standing close together on the mud, the relatively shorter legs of this bird were obvious. One previous record, 16 October 1891.

Common Gull, *Larus canus*. One Funchal harbour 18 December 1965. Not previously recorded.

Snow Bunting, *Plectrophenax nivalis*. Two birds (♂ and ♀) present on Pico Arrieiro 18 December 1965. One previous record, 1 July 1933.